

Dear Sir!

I can not let the last days of the  
linking year pass without telling you  
how ~~very~~ happy I was, in receiving you,  
as usual kind letter and your photograph,  
which ever will be ~~me~~ dear to me, as  
representing a man, to whom I feel so obliged,  
and who has shown me so lasting  
kindness and friendship. I now possess  
a beginning collection of the portraits of my  
botanical correspondents, and amongst them  
I assure you, you take a high place, in  
many respects.

I think I have told you before, that  
my wife, who is a very good painter,  
has made a portrait in oil of Linnaeus,  
a copy of that famous painting, which Linnaeus  
himself ~~assures~~ most excellent. It will -  
I hope - accompany your treasures when they  
next spring go back to you, and it will -  
I also hope - be kept by you as a <sup>good</sup> memento  
from Sweden. If you wish to have any  
autograph of Linnaeus, I can procure you  
one very interesting; we have some specimens  
of an old herbarium <sup>collected and</sup> named by Linnaeus, and  
perhaps you prefer to have ~~a~~ such a one  
a Swedish flower inscribed by the handwri-  
ting of our greatest naturalist?

(I just now reported that I only promised it for the future. I give  
a Lythrum here - as a "new-year-gift")

For the day I have nothing at all to  
communicate to you in botanical respect.  
An expedition which this year visited Spitz-  
bergen has brought back immense collecting from  
that arctic region, and ~~it~~ <sup>they</sup> will be distributed  
to several museums and scientific men. You  
also will have a set of them, a little  
precious one!

A new year commences next day. May it bring  
you health to work for the science as before,  
happiness as a citizen and husband, and all  
else good and you wish yourself and the Yours.  
And I pray you to forgive me, when, among  
other wishes I send you, I also put that:

May you not forgive Your  
most obliged

Stockholm 30 Dec.  
1861.

N. J. Anderson.